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EVANS' WILLIAMS' SHAMPOO
 No. 3368—65th Year
 SUNDAY, MAY 19, 1946

LIGHTING-UP

TIMES
 LONDON
 9.30 p.m.—4.30 a.m.
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No. 3368—65th Year
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OVER 3,000,000 CERTIFIED SALE

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'Britain Is Going Hungry To Fatten Continental Racketeers'—A Challenge To Mr. Morrison

BLACK MARKET RAMPAGE FOOD FOR THE STARVING

● Gerald Kersh, the famous author and contributor to "The People," returned to London a few days ago after a month's stay in Rome. What he saw there prompted him to write the views published below—views which, in the light of the constant appeals for aid for Europe's starving poor, are both illuminating and alarming.

By GERALD KERSH

I HAVE just got back from Rome, and have plenty of stories to tell. Some are nightmarish, others are sad, and all of them are a little crazy. Like a dead fish, Europe is going rotten from the head down. And I should like to say, in passing, that England, too, is dancing with her shadow in the twilight perilously close to the rim of the Bottomless Pit.

And In Queer

Europe Yesterday

Poles Sell It By The Ton

These reports were sent yesterday by news agency reporters from queer Europe, where millions are in peril of starvation—and where many are making fortunes.

Herford, Westphalia, Saturday.

THOUSANDS of displaced Poles in the Ruhr are selling the British some of Germany's have so much food that they are selling Red Cross parcels by the ton to the German black market.

Some black market leaders have made so much money that they are able to travel to Belgium and buy cars, drugs and jewellery for smuggling to Poland.

About 300,000 Poles in the British zone are getting official rations nearly as big as those given to the British soldiers.

The investigators found in many camps great hunks of meat cut up for sale to Germans who were waiting outside with handfuls of marks.—Reuter.

Grain Hidden

Rome, Saturday.

THOUSANDS of tons of grain are believed to have been hidden away in Italy for the black market sale.

As a result of this, and of the fact that UNRRA has told the Government that maximum grain shipments in June will be 15,000 tons compared with an anticipated 180,000 tons, Italy's bread ration will be cut by next Saturday.—Reuter.

Lush Swiss

Basle, Saturday.

DRIVERS from a hungry world found their mouths watering in the lavish display of food laid out for them at the Swiss Industrial Fair.

All-meat sausages, cuts of meat, roast Swiss cheese—all for less than half a chicken or a pound of Swiss asparagus, with slices of ham or fried eggs, and other smothered with melted butter.—Reuter.

Hungry Ruhr

H.Q. Control Commission, Germany, Saturday.

An armed force of German railway police is accompanying potato trains in the British zone to protect them from raids by hundreds of hungry civilians.

Raids are most frequent in the "hunger belt" in the Ruhr, where people have not had a proper ration of potatoes since last November.

"These people are becoming desperate," a senior public safety officer said.—Reuter.

Paris Fears

Paris, Saturday.

"LAURENCE" commenting on France's food situation, said today that "through the fault of those who have the duty of feeding France, Paris has reached a point where delay in the arrival of one ship can deprive her of bread."

Bread queues have reappeared in Paris.—Reuter.

WEATHER FORECAST

Showers, with some hail and thunder. Cool.

Further outlook: Little change.

The first item of news that I read on my return to London announced that Mr. Morrison had decided to send 200,000 tons of wheat to Europe. This announcement will be received with wild shrieks of joy—from the Black Market operators of the Continent, where they work openly and without shame, unhindered by Governments too weak, too disorganised and too corrupt to suppress them, even if they wanted to.

I want to know how Mr. Morrison proposes to guarantee the proper delivery of that wheat to the starving wretches to whom he proposes to offer it.

I am convinced that practically every bushel of those 200,000 tons will find its way to the Black Market—that our children will go hungry to fatten Continental racketeers.

What happened to the thousands of tons of coal we sent to France?—the Black Market got it.

What happened to the twelve hundred heavy trucks we sent to Paris?—They disappeared into the Black Market—like the three American food ships that evaporated—so mysteriously out of Naples before they were unloaded.

I have seen and heard much that disgusted me in the past few weeks. I'll tell you about it in my article next Sunday.

But in the meantime I want to put about my firm conviction that this prodigality of Mr. Morrison will impoverish and enslave the hungry people of Europe.

I would never begrudge half of my loaf of bread to any hungry man. God forbid! But I bitterly resent the heavy-handed ineptitude of a man who prompts Mr. Morrison to take my bread from Britain's poor and throw it into the hands of the fat "Unofficial Market" manipulators who at present have their hands full but a tiny percentage of the food in Europe.

Canada Is Annoyed

Montreal, Saturday.

THE British Government was rebuked today by Mr. J. G. Gardiner, Canadian Minister for Agriculture, for Mr. Morrison's decision to send another 200,000 tons of wheat to Europe.

"As we know, this is Canadian wheat which we sold to the British Government," he said, "and it is a disgrace to see it being sold to the enemy."

"I don't think we are willing to let them go to Germany at the same price we allow it to be sold in this country."

The prevailing world price of wheat is about 11s.—B.U.P.

Bread Ration Decision Soon

By Our Political Correspondent
 ANNOUNCEMENT in London yesterday that the British Government is to consider the rationing of bread to a head an issue which has been a bone of contention for some time, has almost immediately—the question whether or not bread is to be rationed.

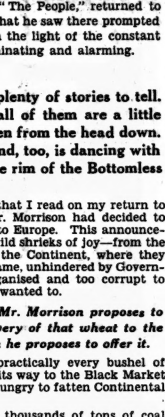
No decision is likely until Mr. Morrison returns from his North American visit.

Experts have already prepared the administrative machinery for bread rationing.

But—Ministers are against taking such a step except as a last resource.

A statement by the Premier in the House may lead to a debate on the food position.

The fact that Britain is removing the threat of wheat rationing, and that the threat will continue at least through the summer harvest of 1947 is a pointer to the increasing gravity of the situation.



"I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE"—especially at Skegness, where Butlin's original holiday camp has reopened after being occupied for six years by the Navy.

Down 'Radish Street'

The Blackest Black Market Of All

By FREDERICK OTHMAN

IN the Rue des Radis—"Radish Street"—seat of the world's most brazen black market, you may buy for a price anything from a three-ton lorry to a set of "unmentionables" from grape fruit at 5s. each to corned beef originally issued in tins to the British Army.

The narrow, cobblestoned alley is crisscrossed with the vendors of everything from the necessities of life to the luxuries of the underworld. The latter are the warehouses for the illicit merchandise, while the inconspicuous men at either end of the thoroughfare are the lookouts for the cops.

If I'd had the money I could have stocked a department store. I was offered soap, four kinds of chewing-gum, flannel pyjamas, underwear from the U.S. and British Armies, olive drab socks and army torches.

They tried to sell me oranges at 1s. 1d. each, but I said, "I don't want them." I saw magnificent hot-house strawberries packed in cotton wool in a box.

I didn't even ask about the big black grapes, the red peaches, the electric vacuum cleaners, nor the lawn mowers. All these things were for sale legally at prices for which you cringe.—B.U.P.

There were herring and German cameras, dried fruit salad from California, raisins from North Africa.

I bought two packages of U.S. cigarettes for 5s. each and priced some chicken at 3s. 6d. a pound. I saw magnificent hot-house strawberries packed in cotton wool in a box.

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Gay Pares Is A

Pain In The Pocket

You Think London Is Dear...

From JOAN TWELFTHREE

"DID" Montmartre last night. Here is the bill. To night club (to save my hat)—210 worth of straw and feathers, 12s.

Cover charge, 41s. 4s. corage, 12s.

Champagne, which looked as if it had been worked on with a bicycle pump, 43 12s.

More champagne and food (with enough chicken and ham to provide four French citizens with a week's meat ration) 412 12s.

We saw 40 girls baring their breasts to the world in an elaborate stage show operated by creaking machinery.

We rode back in an ancient cab—£1 4s.

And some people say London is expensive!—B.U.P.

No Strike, But Rail Chaos

THE all-U.S. railway strike, due to start at ten o'clock last night, was postponed at the last moment on the orders of the railway union's strike headquarters.

They have issued an order for a five-day truce, and the strike will now begin before 10 p.m. next Thursday.

Meanwhile, wage negotiations are to be resumed.

Postponement of the strike came too late to prevent an almost complete tie-up of the New York rail service.

Trains stood without drivers or firemen, while overcrowded stations, uncertain when the services would be resumed.

The railwaymen themselves did not seem to know whether they were striking or working.

The largest railway in the world, the Pennsylvania Railroad, is the only one which has not yet decided whether to strike or work.

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'THE GREATEST SINCE MARTIN LUTHER'

Religious Revival Sweeps Germany

From RONALD CLARK, B.U.P. Correspondent

Cologne, Saturday.

TENS of thousands of Germans from Cologne to Kiel are packing the bomb-shattered churches of the Reich just as Londoners pack the cinemas on a Saturday evening. This is, without doubt, the biggest religious revival Europe has known since the days of Martin Luther.

With the exception of hunger, it is the most powerful force in Germany today.

I have visited dozens of churches, Catholic and Protestant, during the last few weeks, in great cities and lost villages. Without exception, it was a case of "standing room only" if you arrived less than 20 minutes before the service began.

Men, women and children were jammed, four, six and eight deep at the back of the church and down the side aisles.

Congregations of 500 in churches built for 200 are no exception.

Figures collated by British officers reveal that more than one person in every three Catholics in the British zone.

Densely-populated Cologne has 4,300,000 attendances a week. In Hamburg alone the attendances are 800,000.

It is significant that the increase is especially noticeable in the case of the Protestants.

Church influence, still growing in the British zone, goes deeper, however, than either church attendances or youth groups indicate.

CARDINAL'S FOLLOWING In the denatification—over 90 per cent. of priests, clergy or church officials were removed by the military government.

Cardinal Primate, who was described by a military government official as having "taken on the political leadership of the Catholic Church in Germany," is having an immense following.

He was to appear at his return from Rome that the first great spontaneous meeting in the British zone assembled last March before Cologne Cathedral.

The largest youth rally in the whole of the British zone since the end of the war came recently, when 10,000 youths gathered in the heart of the Ruhr to Eisen-Verden to hear the Cardinal.

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'No' To Mr. Silkin

WHOOPEE IN STEVENAGE

THE hiss and crack of fireworks and a symphony of motor-horns, with people jumping in the air for joy, greeted the result of the referendum announced at Stevenage late last night against the Government's scheme to make the town the first of Britain's new satellite boroughs.

The count took just over 100 hours to complete. After 10 o'clock the result was announced as follows:—

Against the scheme 1,316
 For 913
 For modified scheme 282
 Majority against scheme 403

The total number of votes cast was 2,211 out of a possible poll of 4,810, or 32.2 per cent. of the rate-payers.

The crowd heard the figures of the votes in favour and for a modified scheme in silence, but as soon as Mr. Berry, the Urban District Council Clerk, had said the two words "one thousand" there was a roar of approval.

Mr. Poulsen, secretary of the Residents' Protection Association, said: "I am perfectly happy with the majority we have got, but I am surprised at the number who voted for the scheme."

They voted for about 300 houses to be demolished, and yet they knew fewer would be demolished than if they voted for the modified scheme.

"I would have expected the scheme to be rejected, but I have been 900 and for the scheme in its entirety to have had the 'thumbs' number."

Mr. Silkin had told the Stevenage Residents' Protection Association, who fought his proposal, that the question of holding a public inquiry would not be decided until after the vote was known.

It was learned in Berlin tonight that the Russians are incorporating many former German army officers into the Red Army. They include many men who were prisoners of war in the U.S. and British zones.

They are given lessons in Russian, and are given military terms and words of command.

Many professional soldiers, having no alternative occupation, accept the Russian offer enthusiastically, it is stated.—Reuter.

WOODCOCK ON THE WAY New York, Saturday.

Bruce Woodcock and his wife, Mrs. Woodcock, left for London tonight for a brief visit.

Mr. Woodcock, a member of the House of Commons, is expected to help the next meeting on June 15 to agree upon the peace treaties.

Senator Vandenberg, a member of the Anti-Revolutionary Party, is expected to help the next meeting on June 15 to agree upon the peace treaties.

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Rook Pie On The Way

FIRST crates of young rooks are on their way south to London from Calne, Wiltshire.

London dealers are offering up to 2s. 6d. a brace for them, and guns are being profitably in the rookeries of Northern Scotland.

THE 200 Cockney "blitz-kids" holidaying at Adelboden, famed Swiss health resort, are enjoying themselves—not a bit.

But they have one objection—they don't like their prescribed three-hour sleep in the afternoon.

Buy Freddie Coleman, Lancashire, Paddington: "It's a waste of time when there are such a lot of nice things to do."

There are no other complaints.

'BIT OF ORL RIGHT,' THEY SAY

SPECIAL TO "THE PEOPLE"

They are settling down nicely, and their views are innumerable. John Riddle Steptoe, says: "The mountains are beautiful, I like the ice-cream, and I drink as much milk as I can. I am going to eat a lot—when they go back home I will be like a pig."

NO PROMPTING The children get up without prompting at 7.30 a.m. for breakfast (mostly, porridge, cornflakes, milk), help to put their rooms in order, then roam in the woods and hills.

Children at home, please note: They only have lessons in the morning if the weather is bad and they have to stay indoors.

At midday, lunch (soup, meat, vegetables, potatoes and dessert). Buy Freddie Coleman, Lancashire, Paddington: "It's a waste of time when there are such a lot of nice things to do."

There are no other complaints.

"Guinness for Strength"

said George,

(This glass was his).

And is he stronger now?

By George he is!

At midday, lunch (soup, meat, vegetables, potatoes and dessert). Buy Freddie Coleman, Lancashire, Paddington: "It's a waste of time when there are such a lot of nice things to do."

